

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

**Shonk Land Company LLC,
Plaintiff**

vs.) Civil Action No. 18-C-193 (Kanawha County)

**Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, and
Carbon West Virginia Company LLC,
Defendants**


The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals has been advised that Plaintiff Shonk Land Company LLC, by counsel, Nicholas S. Johnson and the law firm of Bailey & Glasser LLP; Defendant Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation, by counsel, Timothy M. Miller, Robert M. Stonestreet, Jennifer J. Hicks, and the law firm of Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C.; Defendant Carbon West Virginia Company LLC, by counsel, Charles F. Bagley III, Owen A. Reynolds, and the law firm of Campbell Woods, PLLC; and the Honorable Tod J. Kaufman, Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, have filed a joint motion to refer the above-referenced case to the Business Court Division pursuant to Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules ("TCR").

Upon careful review and consideration of the joint motion, the Chief Justice has determined that the principal claims in the action involve matters of significance to the transactions, operations, or governance between business entities as required by TCR 29.04(a)(1). The Chief Justice has further determined that specialized treatment is likely to improve the expectation of a fair and reasonable resolution of the controversy as required by TCR 29.04(a)(2), and the motion to refer should therefore be granted.

It is hereby ORDERED that the motion to refer this action to the Business Court Division is granted, and this order shall be transmitted to the Honorable Christopher C. Wilkes, Chair of the Business Court Division, for assignment of a presiding judge and such other actions as are necessary to effectuate the provisions of TCR 29.

It is further ORDERED that a copy of this ORDER be transmitted to the Central Office of the Business Court Division; the Honorable Tod J. Kaufman, Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, who is to provide copies of the same to all parties of record or their counsel.

ENTERED: JULY 9, 2018


MARGARET L. WORKMAN
Chief Justice